

Effective July 1, 2025

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER MEMORANDUM NO. 20

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR AGREEMENTS

This memorandum sets **minimum** requirements that State Agencies must follow for proper accountability over state and federal resources. While the State is accountable to the federal government, sub-recipients of federal financial assistance must be accountable to the State. Recipients/sub-recipients of state financial assistance must also be accountable to the State.

**FEDERAL FUNDS**

This memorandum is applicable to discretionary grants, which the State receives from the federal government. Applicability to federal entitlement programs or formula-based awards should be determined on a case by case basis pursuant to federal regulations for these programs.

State Agencies must determine whether they are passing on federal awards in the form of federal financial assistance to sub-recipients or procuring goods and services from a contractor. This determination is critical for the proper accountability over federal financial assistance, which is passed on to sub-recipients. State Agencies will use the criteria established in Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Code of Federal Regulations Title 2, Part 200.330 to make this determination. Agencies must retain documentation to support this determination.

In 2005 the Office of Federal Financial Management confirmed to the Department of Financial Services, if the State receives an award of federal financial assistance in the form of a grant or cooperative agreement, any sub-award for the purpose of the grant is subject to the rules applicable to the grant, **even if the sub-award is on a fixed price basis**. Agreements (sub-awards) with sub-recipients of federal financial assistance must require compliance with the published requirements entitled Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (also known as the Uniform Guidance), Code of Federal Regulations Title 2, Part 200 (2 CFR, Part 200).

The Uniform Guidance also applies to **sub-awards** made by State and local governments and provides that:

- a. A grant may be charged only allowable costs resulting from obligations incurred during the specified funding period.
- b. Any balance of unobligated cash that has been advanced or paid that is not authorized to be retained for other projects must be refunded to the federal government.
- c. Any funds paid in excess of the amount to which the recipient is finally determined to be entitled, under the terms and conditions of the award, constitutes a debt to the Federal government.

Agreements with contractors must be procured in a manner that ensures a fair and reasonable price to the Federal government and compliance with applicable rules and regulations, including, but not limited to:

- a. 2 CFR, Part 200
- b. Section (s.) 287.057, Florida Statutes (F.S.)
- c. Section 215.971, F.S.
- d. Section 216.3475, F.S.

(1) Non-competitive procurements and competitive procurements that result in less than two (2) responses must be supported by a detailed cost analysis. Costs must be reasonable, necessary, and allowable in accordance with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations. Agencies must maintain documentation to evidence the agency's review of individual cost elements included on the detailed budget submitted by the person or entity awarded funding.

## **STATE FUNDS**

State agencies must determine whether they are awarding state financial assistance to a recipient or procuring goods and services from a vendor. State Agencies will use the Florida Single Audit Checklist for Non-state Organizations - Recipient/Sub-recipient vs. Vendor Determination to make this determination. Agencies must retain a copy of the checklist.

Agreements with recipients of state financial assistance, **even if awarded on a fixed price basis**, must require:

- a. Compliance with s. 215.97, F.S.
- b. Compliance with s.215.971, F.S.
- c. Expenditures of state financial assistance be in compliance with laws, rules, and regulations applicable to expenditures of State funds, including, but not limited to, the Reference Guide for State Expenditures

Agreements involving the State University System, the Florida Community College System, district school board, or charter schools using state funds must be procured in a manner that ensures a fair and reasonable price to the State and compliance with applicable rules and regulations, including, but not limited to:

- a. Section 216.3475, F.S.
  - (1) Non-competitive procurements and competitive procurements that result in less than two (2) responses must be supported by a detailed cost analysis. Costs must be reasonable, necessary, and allowable in accordance with state laws, rules, and regulations. Agencies must maintain documentation to evidence the agency's review of individual cost elements included on the detailed budget submitted by the person or entity awarded funding.
- b. May be a fixed price contract that entitles the provider to receive compensation of the fixed contract amount upon completion of all deliverables.
- c. May be a fixed rate per unit contract that entitles the provider to receive compensation for each deliverable provided.
- d. May be a cost reimbursable contract that entitles the provider to receive compensation for actual allowable costs incurred in performing contract deliverables.
- e. May be a combination of b, c, and d.

Agreements with vendors must be procured in a manner that ensures a fair and reasonable price to the State and compliance with applicable rules and regulations, including, but not limited to:

- a. Section 287.057, F.S.
- b. Section 216.3475, F.S.
  - i) Non-competitive procurements and competitive procurements that result in less than two (2)

responses must be supported by a detailed cost analysis. Costs must be reasonable, necessary, and allowable in accordance with state laws, rules, and regulations. Agencies must maintain documentation to evidence the agency's review of individual cost elements included on the detailed budget submitted by the person or entity awarded funding.

Please contact the Bureau of Auditing at (850) 413-5512 if you have any questions.